

City of Roswell

2015 Water Quality Report

Spanish (Espanol)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Our water source is ground water which draws water from the San Andreas water basin. We are currently producing water from twenty water wells with the capability of producing forty-one million gallons per day and we are capable of storing twenty-four million gallons of water in our reservoirs.

Source water assessment and its availability

The susceptibility analysis of the Roswell Municipal Water System Utility reveals that the utility is well maintained and operated, and the sources of drinking water are generally protected from potential sources of contamination based on well construction, hydrogeologic settings, and system operations and management. The susceptibility rank of the entire water system is moderately low. The source water assessment report is available at the State of New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau (DWB) 1190 St. Frances Drive, Suite S 2050, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Copies may also be requested by calling toll free 1-877-654-8720. Please include your name, address, telephone number, and email address and the name of the Water System. NMED-DWB may charge a nominal fee for paper copies.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions concerning this report, please call Central Control with the City of Roswell at 575-347-5421.

Status of water in New Mexico and call for conservation

Water is New Mexico's most precious and natural resource. New Mexico has experienced several consecutive years of drought and meteorologists predict that it will continue. Water conservation is especially important during times of drought. Additionally, and arguably more critical, most aquifers in the state are being depleted. Decreasing water levels in aquifers and surface sources can increase the concentration of minerals and contaminants in the drinking water supply. We at the City of Roswell Municipal Water System are committed to providing a safe and consistent supply of water and we ask for your help. There are a lot of simple ways to reduce the amount of water used both inside and outside the home. Please conserve water whenever possible by taking the following steps:

1. Know your water supply provider and follow existing water restrictions.
2. Stop leaks. Toilets are the largest water user inside the home. Over time, toilet flappers can decay or minerals can build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper—a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself quickly. You can get instructions for testing for leaks with dye tabs for free (with free tabs) from the Office of the State Engineer's District Offices or call 1-800-WATERNM.
3. Check outdoor fixtures (swamp coolers, irrigation systems, etc.) for leaks and repair any leaks.
4. Consider turning the swamp cooler off when away from home.
5. Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter. Make sure irrigation systems are working properly (and you are not watering the house, sidewalk or street) and use only the minimum amount of water needed by plants.
6. Run water only when using it. Turn water off while brushing teeth, shaving, and/or washing counters.
7. Wash only full loads of laundry. Install a water efficient clothes washer (and save 16 gallons per load).
8. Take 5 minute showers.
9. Flush toilets only when necessary.
10. When upgrading or replacing household fixtures, install low-flow toilets, showerheads, washing machines, and faucets.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Roswell Municipal Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.44	.03	1.44	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	1.45	NA	1.45	2014-2015	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	5.68	NA	5.68	2014-2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	1.6	ND	1.6	2014	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.025	.017	.025	2014	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.78	.55	.78	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	2.8	1.3	2.8	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	3.4	1.3	3.4	2014	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Sodium (optional) (ppm)	NA		150	30	150	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.8	ND	3.8	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	5.4	1.5	5.4	2011	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	.58	.12	.58	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	2	1	2	2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	1.1	ND	1.1	2015	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	2.2	ND	2.2	2015	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Contaminants	MCLG	AA	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.095	2015	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.5	2015	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Additional Contaminants

In an effort to insure the safest water possible the State has required us to monitor some contaminants not required by Federal regulations. Of those contaminants only the ones listed below were found in your water.

Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment
Nickel	NA	.013 ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	NA	.12 ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Additional Monitoring

As part of an on-going evaluation program the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.

Name	Reported Level	Range	
		Low	High
chromium (total chromium) (ppb)	.86	ND	.86
chromium-6 (hexavalent chromium) (ppb)	.33	.26	.33
molybdenum (ppb)	2.6	ND	2.6
strontium (ppb)	2800	1600	2800
vanadium (ppb)	5.9	3.7	5.9

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Roger Buckley
 PO Box 1838
 Roswell, NM 88202
 Phone: 575-347-5421
 Fax: 575-347-7141
 E-Mail: r.buckley@roswell-nm.gov
 Website: <http://roswell-nm.gov/>